WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Construction of Salal Hydro Electric Project

*102. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the progress in the construction of the Salal Hydro Electric Project;

(b) whether it is a fact that an underground tunnel of 600 ft. length which was dug during investigations has been found to be responsible for a leakage in the dam;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted following the detection of the dam leakage and if so, whether any more such unfilled underground tunnels which were dug for geological investigations before the construction of the dam started have been found; and

(d) if so, what is the outcome of the enquiry and its likely effects on the schedule for construction of the Salal Project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) (a) All major works of the Salal Hydro Electric Project have been completed except a small portion of the Tailrace Tunnel which is under construction.

(b) to (d) During the initial filling of the Salal reservoir, seepage was observed from an underground drift, excavated during the investigation stage. This was examined by a High Power Technical Advisory Committee who advised plugging of part of the drift. This has not affected the schedule of commissioning. No other such drifts have been found.

Punjab Agro-Pepsi Cola Project

*106. SHRI T. R. BALU:

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 879 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 27th April, 1987 and state:

(a) whether any decision has since been taken by Government on the application regarding Punjab Agro-Pepsi Cola Project;

(b) if so, what are the details of the application and the decision taken thereon indicating the amount of foreign exchange involved per year in the manufacture of processed foods and soft drink concentrates;

(c) what quantity of fruit juice concentrate will be exported per year under this contract;

(d) what amount of foreign exchange is expected to be earned per year; and

(e) whether Government consider it necessary to import the technology for manufacturing 'potato chips' and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (d) M/s. Punjab Agro Industries Corporation have submitted an application for approval for a joint venture with one of the Tata Companies and Pepsico Incorporated, USA for the manufacture of various processed foods and soft drink concentrates. The proposal includes setting up of an Agro Research Institute, Potato/Grain Processing Unit, Fruit and Vegetable Processing Unit and Soft Drink Concentrate Unit. The proposal is under consideration of the Government.

The estimated outgo of foreign exchange as per the project proposals is Rs. 18 crores for the first five years is as follows:—

	(Rs. in crores)
(a) Machinery	6·00
(b) Raw materials	8·60
(c) Dividends	2·00
(d) Lumpsum payment	1·00
(e) Foreign Technicians	0.40
TOTAL ;	18·00